

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT**

NOTICE OF FUNDS AVAILABILITY

**District of Columbia Fatherhood Initiative (DCFI)
RFA# 0524-07**

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) created the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF). The District of Columbia established its TANF program in 1997. To support welfare reform's goals, States were allowed to develop strategies to meet the needs of low-income families and serve fathers. The widespread acceptance of fatherhood programs contributes to greater understanding of the importance of father involvement, especially in low-income families. The Department of Human Services (DHS) is the lead agency in the District of Columbia for the implementation of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, under PRWORA. The development of the District of Columbia Fatherhood Initiative (DCFI) has established a coordination point for government and community based entities in the District for fatherhood programs/services that are not punitive yet address systemic environmental issues hindering fathers from continuous voluntary involvement in their child's life. The Department has funds available to assist eligible organizations in the expansion and delivery of fatherhood programs and services to TANF-eligible fathers.

The objective of this effort is to provide a holistic approach to service delivery that will meet the needs of fathers and their families to ensure that fathers have the fundamental skills necessary to contribute to the financial, emotional and social development of their children. In addition, the programs and services offered attempt to remove the many environmental barriers (economic, educational, employment, etc.) that negatively impact a father's involvement and support with his family and child(ren).

DHS will make available approximately \$1,295,000.00 in funding for this program with the intention of making multiple awards.

Starting Wednesday, May 24, 2006, applications can be obtained from: <http://www.opgd.dc.gov/> and going to the following link: District Grants Clearinghouse. Also on the 24th, applications may be obtained from Ms. Priscilla Burnett, Program Assistant for the Office of Grants Management at 64 New York Avenue, NE, Washington, DC, 6th floor. Please call: (202) 671-4407.

A Pre-Application Conference will be held on Wednesday, June 7, 2006 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, Lower Level A, Room A5 (Auditorium), 901 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 2001.

The deadline for application submission is July 6, 2006, at 3:30 PM.